

## Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## WIFA Seeking 2005 Funding Cycle Applications for Clean and Drinking Water Infrastructure Projects

PHOENIX – As part of its continuing effort to provide financial assistance for Arizona's water and wastewater infrastructure, the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona today began soliciting clean and drinking water state revolving fund priority list applications for the 2005 funding cycle from governmental and non-governmental drinking water and wastewater facilities.

"WIFA is very pleased to announce the beginning of the 2005 funding cycle," said WIFA Executive Director Jay Spector. "The clean and drinking water funding will help communities improve water quality throughout Arizona."

During the last 18 months, the WIFA Board of Directors approved more than \$81.7 million from Arizona's Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWRF) to wastewater and water reclamation facilities. The WIFA Board of Directors also approved more than \$51.4 million from Arizona's Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) to drinking water facilities.

By submitting an application to WIFA, eligible borrowers are included on the annual Project Priority List (PL), which is part of the clean and drinking water intended use plans. Projects are prioritized based on public health factors, condition of drinking water or wastewater facilities, local fiscal capacity, prior year funding, and project benefits including water quality improvement, conservation index and consolidation/regionalization. The PL process ensures that those most need financial assistance receive funding.

WIFA will host financing workshops at three locations throughout the state as a part of its applications process. The workshops are scheduled for:

- Monday, Sept. 20 from 1-3 p.m. at the Pima Association of Governments, Main Conference Room, 177 N. Church Ave., Tucson
- **Tuesday, Sept. 21** from 12:30-2 p.m. at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Room 250, 1110 W. Washington St., Phoenix
- Thursday, Sept. 23 from 1-3 p.m. at the Flagstaff City Hall, Council Chambers, 211 W. Aspen Ave., Flagstaff

The deadline to submit a CWRF and DWRF project application is Oct. 1. Following a public review and comment period, the WIFA Board of Directors will approve a final intended use plan and project priority list for the clean and drinking water state revolving funds on Dec. 15. The intended use plan and project priority list becomes effective on Jan. 1, 2005.

Clean and drinking water state revolving fund priority list applications can be found at WIFA's Web site (www.azwifa.gov).